AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 21, 23, 25-30, 32, and 33 are pending. Please amend claims 1, 8, 15, 21, and 29. No claims are canceled or added. The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1.   (Currently amended)   A software version control method comprising:

assigning each of a plurality of data files to one of a plurality of specific corresponding downloadable file groups;

generating processed images and a listing of unique identifiers as follows:

for each downloadable file group:

compressing together data files assigned to the downloadable file group to form one processed image; and

deriving a unique identifier for the processed image, the unique identifier being derived from a portion of the one processed image, the portion being less than a whole of the one processed image;

storing the processed images and the listing of unique identifiers to a source device;

comparing the listing of unique identifiers with a current listing of unique identifiers in a client device; and

selectively sending processed images from the source device whose unique identifiers appear in the listing of unique identifiers but not in the current listing of unique identifiers in the client device.

2.   (Previously presented)   The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the source device includes at least one server device.

3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Previously presented)   The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein assigning data files to downloadable file groups further includes assigning a plurality of related function data files to one downloadable file group.

5.   (Previously presented)   The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising sending the processed image and the listing of unique identifiers to a client device that stores the one processed image and the listing of unique identifiers in a persistent memory.

6-7.   (Canceled)

8.   (Currently amended)   A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for causing at least one processing unit to perform acts comprising:

assigning each of a plurality of data files to one of a plurality of specific corresponding downloadable file groups;

generating processed images and a listing of unique identifiers as follows:

for each downloadable file group, compressing together data files assigned to the file group to form a respective processed image for the downloadable file group;

deriving a unique identifier for the respective processed image , the unique identifier being derived from one or more portions of the respective processed image, the one or more portions representing less than a whole of the respective processed image;

storing the processed images and the listing of unique identifiers to a source device;

comparing the listing of unique identifiers with a current listing of unique identifiers in a client device; and

selectively sending processed images from the source device whose unique identifiers appear in the listing of unique identifiers but not in the current listing of unique identifiers in the client device.

9.   (Previously presented)   The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8, wherein the source device includes at least one server device.

10.   (Canceled)

11.   (Previously presented)   The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8, wherein assigning data files to downloadable file groups further includes assigning a plurality of related function data files to one downloadable file group.

12.   (Previously presented)   The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8, further comprising sending the respective processed image and the listing of unique identifiers to a client device that stores the processed image and the listing of unique identifiers in a persistent memory.

13-14. (Canceled)

15.   (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory comprising computer program instructions executable by the processor for:

generating processed images and a listing of unique identifiers by:

assigning each of a plurality of data files to one of a plurality of specific corresponding downloadable file groups;

for each downloadable file group:

compressing together data files assigned to the downloadable file group to form one processed image ; and

deriving, by using a portion of the processed image, a unique identifier for the one processed image, the portion being less than a whole of the processed image;

storing the processed images and the listing of unique identifiers to the memory; and

comparing the listing of unique identifiers with a current listing of unique identifiers associated with a client device to identify processed images for providing to the client device.

16-20. (Canceled)

21.   (Currently amended)   A system comprising:

a network;

a server device operatively coupled to the network, the server device being configured to:

assign each of a plurality of server-based data files to one of a plurality of specific corresponding server-based downloadable file groups;

generate processed images and a listing of unique identifiers as follows:

for each server-based downloadable file group, the server device is configured to:

compress together data files assigned to the server-based downloadable file group to form one processed image ; and

derive a unique identifier for the one processed image, the unique identifier being derived based on a portion of the processed image, the portion being less than a whole of the processed image;

selectively output the processed images and a latest listing of the unique identifiers over the network; and

a client device operatively coupled to the network, the client device being configured to communicate with the server device through the network, wherein the client device is further configured to maintain a listing of unique identifiers associated with processed images stored locally within the client device, download the latest listing of unique identifiers, compare the listing of unique identifiers with the latest listing of unique identifiers , and selectively download processed images whose unique identifiers appear in the latest listing of

unique identifiers from the server device but do not appear in the listing of unique identifiers in the client device.

22.   (Canceled)

23.   (Previously presented)   The system as recited in Claim 21, wherein the server device is further configured to selectively assign a plurality of related function data files to one downloadable file group.

24.   (Canceled).

25.   (Previously presented)   The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the one processed image for the downloadable file group has a ".cim" extension.

26.   (Previously presented)   The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8, wherein the respective processed image for the downloadable file group has a ".cim" extension.

27.   (Previously presented)   The apparatus as recited in Claim 15, wherein the one processed image for the downloadable file group has a ".cim" extension.

28.   (Previously presented)   The system as recited in Claim 21, wherein the one processed image for the server-based downloadable file group has a ".cim" extension.

29.   (Currently amended)   A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for causing at least one processing unit to perform acts comprising:

assigning each of a plurality of data files to one of a plurality of specific corresponding downloadable file groups;

generating processed images and a listing of unique identifiers as follows:

for each downloadable file group, compressing together data files assigned to the downloadable file group to form one processed image ;

deriving a unique identifier for the one processed image, the unique identifier being derived using a portion of the processed image, the portion being less than a whole of the processed image;

storing the processed images and the listing of unique identifiers within a source device.

30.   (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 29, wherein the source device includes at least one server device.

31.   (Canceled)

32.   (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 29, wherein assigning data files to downloadable file groups further

includes assigning a plurality of related function data files to one downloadable file group.

33.   (Previously presented)   A computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 29, further comprising sending the one processed image and the listing of unique identifiers to a client device.